



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **WATER IMPROVEMENTS HEADED FOR WALTHILL VIA USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING**

**Norfolk, Neb., April 5, 2004**--The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development recently awarded \$612,000 in loan and grant funds to the Village of Walthill for water improvements. The improvements will ensure the continued delivery of safe and dependable water services to the Village's 900 rural residents.

"Walthill will receive a new well along with repairs to their water treatment plant through the USDA Rural Development dollars awarded," stated Jolene Kasper, rural development specialist for USDA Rural Development. "The improvements will ensure that the daily water demands of the community are met and that quality water is delivered."

Two wells currently support the Village's water system. The well constructed in 1977 has experienced a significant decline in its pumping capacity, making it unable to meet the average and maximum daily water demands of the community, deeming the need for a replacement well. The existing water treatment plant has two parallel trains, one of which was replaced in 1991. Due to excessive rust and corrosion on the interior unit, the unit installed in 1964 now needs replacing to provide for back up treatment when one unit needs to be taken out of service for maintenance or servicing.

The \$587,000 USDA loan and \$25,000 grant were provided through the USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program. Loan terms are 20 years at 4.5 percent interest. For additional information contact Jolene Kasper at 1909 Vicki Lane Suite 103 Norfolk, Neb. 68701 or phone (402) 371-5350, (402) 437-5093 (TDY). Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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